

## **ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides an isolated peptide that comprises the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 or a sequence which has at least 95% identity with SEQ ID NO:1, and which has the same substrate specificity as SEQ ID NO:1. Preferred peptides include peptides having the amino acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3, 5, and 7. The isolated peptide is useful as a dipeptidyl aminopeptidase.